(Qty. in tonnes)
(Value in Rs. lakhs)

Year	Production (Crude Mica)	Export	
		Qty.	Val.
1990-91	3827*	42506	5131.09
1991-92 *	3353*	34880	5547.88
1992-93	N.A.	27741	3834.73

(Source : IBM Nagpur) (Source : DGCI&S)
*Provisional.

Both production and exports of mica have shown a decline after decanalisation. However, this is largely attributable to changes in the global market on account of technological obsolescence; product substitution of certain forms of mica; changes in the former Soviet Union and East European countries which were major consumers of sheet mica and due to recessionary trends in the global economy.

(b) Government is constantly reviewing all possible avenues of increasing the export of mica and mica products in the changing global scenario;

BAN ON TOBACCO CULTIVATION AND EXPORTS

2336. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to ban tobacco cultivation and tobacco exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what were the reaction of Government for anti-tobacco restriction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Despite anti-smoking campaign, the demand for tobacco is continuing and is likely to continue for some more years

MMTC'S PROPOSAL FOR JOINT VENTURE FOR EXPORTS

2337. SHRI RAMADAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have cleared State owned MMTC's (Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation) proposal for setting up a joint-venture for boosting the exports of marine products;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, indicating MMTC's right to export, stake in the equity capital, location of project and total investment involved in rupees; in earlier stage and during full production stage; and

(c) whether Government had earlier approved MMTC's proposal for setting up a joint venture with another private enterprise; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

Proposal for Joint Ventures for exports

Sl. No.	Project name	Location	Project cost (Rs. crores)	MMTC's Share in equity	Share for MMTC in exports
1.	Kings International Aqua Marine Exports Ltd. (KIAMEL)	Tuticorin, Tamilnadu	27.50 15.00 (E) 12.50 (D)	15%	30%
2.	Suvarna Aqua Farms & Exports Ltd. (SAFEL) A.P. Hyderabad.	Nellore	60.00 17.01 (E) 22.00 (D)	15%	30%

E=Equity D=Debt

ALLIANCE/TIE UPS WITH COMPANIES OF UK

2338. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.K. Export Promoter (Depatment of Trade of Industry) has offered the British Government's support to Indian Companies for facilitating the process of forming strategic alliance/tie up as reported in the Financial Express 3rd December, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CII (Confederation of Indian Industries) has shown any interest in setting up a trade corridor between the U.K. and the Eastern region of Indian similar to the purposed corrided with Madras and Singapore; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what is the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The U.K. Export Promoter, expressed an opinion that it would be useful for the Indian Companies to form strategic alliances to promote Indian exports.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

REQUEST TO REMOVE BAN ON IMPORT OF CONSUMER GOODS

2339. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Confederation of Indian Industry have requested Government to remove the ban on consumer goods imports.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry have also made some other requests to Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to take some action on these requests; and

(f) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (f) No, Sir. However, it is stated that the Export and Import Policy and the Procedures related hereto are kept constrantly under review. Changes are made therein as and when considered necessary.

EXPORT BY PSUS

2340. SYED SIBETY RAZI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :